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December 23, 1997

Lester Snow
Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta program
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Lester:

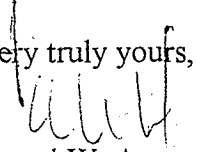
The Sierra Nevada Alliance has contracted with SNEP scientist Rick Kattlemann to prepare criteria for use in evaluating project applications that propose a basis of improving forest health and/or increasing water yield. The attached questions have been developed by Mr. Kattlemann.

The questions have been and continue to be reviewed by other scientists, but our feedback to date is that they provide a very comprehensive way to look at projects. If the criteria are used by reviewers, the results will be a vast improvement in the review process, assuring that projects will be evaluated in terms of scale, ecosystems and unintended consequences.

The reviewers have also suggested that the questions become part of any RFP package for grants that propose to improve forest health or increase water yield. They have also recommended that the complexities of those types of proposals are such that unbiased technical panels are imperative to the review process; Rick Kattlemann's questions provide a solid foundation for such a panel to assess and evaluate the likely success of those projects.

I believe that you will find this information helpful. Please call if you have any questions or comments.

Very truly yours,


Laurel W. Ames
Executive Director